Philosophy 4
Intro to Philosophy
Exam #1
Fall 2006
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Place all answers inside your bluebook. Read all directions thoroughly. In general, the more detailed but focused an answer you give, the better score you will receive. Take care to ensure that you are answering the specific question asked, however. Neatness counts! If I cannot read your answer, it will be as though you had not written it.

Section I. True/False. Write only a "T" or an "F" to indicate your answer. (2 points each)

1) Epistemology is the branch of philosophy that deals with questions of the nature of reality.
2) Locke holds that reason plays no role in divine revelation.
3) For Bertrand Russell, philosophy only has value if a thorough account of philosophical progress can be given.
4) Extension is the essential property of the mind, on Descartes' view.
5) Rationalism is the view that knowledge comes primarily through the senses.
6) Hume holds that Matters of Fact are always synthetic and contingent.
7) Plato and Descartes are both rationalists.
8) Descartes holds that religious belief is rational even if there is no way to prove God's existence.
9) Hume and Locke have the same view on the origin of our ideas, viz. that some ideas are innate.
10) Plato holds that the essential form of an object is contained in the object itself.

Section II. Provide a brief definition/explanation of the following terms, including specific references to the course material where appropriate. (5 points each)

11) Foundationalism
12) Empiricism
13) Synthetic Proposition
14) Analytic Proposition
15) Socratic Irony
16) *Tabula Rasa*

17) *Cogito ergo sum*
18) Mind/Body Dualism
19) Metaphysics
20) Clear and Distinct Ideas

Section III. Short Answer. Provide a short but thorough answer to each of the following questions. (10 points each)

21) What is the value of philosophy for Bertrand Russell?
22) Explain Hume's account of the origin of our ideas. How does this account differ from that of Descartes?
23) Explain Socrates' claim that learning is a form of recollection.
24) What is wrong with the fear of death for Socrates?
25) For Descartes, what is the essential property of the mind? Of the body?

Section IV. Longer Essays. Provide as detailed yet focused an answer as you can to three of the following four questions. If you answer more than three I will only read the first three answers. This is your chance to demonstrate mastery of the course material. (20 points each)

26) Explain Hume's critique of causation. How is this critique tied to his view of the origin of our ideas? Why does Hume end up as a radical skeptic in light of this critique of causation?

27) Give a detailed explanation of Descartes' two arguments for Mind-Body Dualism. How is the reasoning behind each of these two arguments similar? What are some potential problems for these arguments?

28) Give a detailed account of Plato's Allegory of the Cave and the Divided Line. How do these two examples parallel each other? How is the Cave Allegory a metaphor for the following: reality, knowledge, education, philosophy, and Socrates' own life?

29) Give an account of the overall structure of Descartes' Meditations, explaining each significant step in his overall system and using the outline of the Meditations from the lecture as your basis. Why is his argument often taken to be circular?